of PMTCT services to all medical college hospitals (82), and district hospitals (147) in the high prevalence States. This will be followed by the medical college hospitals (79) in the low prevalence States. Training of PMTCT teams has been completed in 74 medical college and 67 district hospitals of high prevalence States. At present 74 medical college hospitals and 7 district hospitals are providing PMTCT services.

Proposal for setting up of PHCs in Assam

524. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for setting up of primary health centres in rural and hilly are as of Assam;

(b) if so, the steps taken thereon; and

(c) the details of funds sanctioned, released and the amount actually utilized in the State during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per information available, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has not received any proposal from the State Government of Assam for setting up of Primary Health Centres in hilly and rural areas.

(b) and (c) As per the Constitution, Primary Health Care is a State subject. Therefore, it is expected that the State Governments would take action for providing funds for the establishment of Primary Health Centres in accordance with the national norms laid down of one Primary Health Centre for every 30,000 population in plain areas and 20,000 population in hilly and tribal areas. In order to assist States achieve these national norms, Planning Commission at the time of approving the State Five Yearly Plan and annual Plans, provides physical targets to be achieved by the State Governments. Accordingly, for Assam, the Planning Commission has fixed a target of 116 Primary Health Centres to be established during the Tenth Plan period 2003—2007. During the current year, it is expected that Government of Assam would be establishing 23 PHCs from out of its overall plan outlay of Rs. 86.48 crores allocated for the Health Sector.